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Overview

Labyrinthitis is an ear disorder that involves irritation and swelling of the inner ear.

See also: [Meniere's disease](#)

Alternative Names

Bacterial labyrinthitis; Serous labyrinthitis; Neuronitis - vestibular; Vestibular neuronitis; Viral neurolabyrinthitis; Vestibular neuritis

Causes

There are likely many causes of labyrinthitis. It commonly occurs after an ear infection ([otitis media](#)) or an [upper respiratory infection](#). It may also occur after an [allergy](#), [cholesteatoma](#), or taking certain drugs that are dangerous to the inner ear.

During labyrinthitis, the parts of the inner ear become irritated and inflamed. This interferes with their function, which includes the ability to keep your balance.

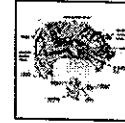
The following raise your risk for labyrinthitis:

- Drinking large amounts of alcohol
- Fatigue
- History of allergies
- Recent viral illness, respiratory infection, or [ear infection](#)
- Smoking
- Stress
- Use of certain prescription or nonprescription drugs (especially aspirin)

Symptoms

- Abnormal sensation of movement (vertigo)
- Difficulty focusing the eyes because of involuntary eye movements
- Dizziness
- Hearing loss in one ear
- Loss of balance, such as falling toward one side
- Nausea and vomiting
- Ringing or other noises in the ears (tinnitus)

Illustrations



[Ear anatomy](#)

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[Beautiful South pop star David Rotheray reveals how vertigo wrecked his life](#)
Daily Mail - 3 weeks ago
Common causes include **labyrinthitis**, an infection of the inner ear or Benign Paroxysmal Positional Vertigo (BPPV), where tiny particles within the inner ear ...

Google Scholar [More »](#)

[Labyrinthitis ossificans: histopathologic consideration for cochlear implantation.](#)
J Green Jr, M Marion, R Hinojosa -
Otolaryngology--head and neck surgery: official journal of American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, 1991 -
[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](#)

[The pathology of suppurative labyrinthitis.](#)
M Paparella, S Sugiura - The Annals of otology, rhinology, and laryngology -
[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](#)

[Paroxysmal torticollis in infancy: a possible form of labyrinthitis](#)
CH Snyder - Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine - [archpedi.ama-assn.org](#)

Search Trends

People who searched for **Labyrinthitis** also searched for:

Conditions

1. [vertigo](#)
2. [middle ear infection](#)
3. [meniere's disease](#)
4. [vestibular neuronitis](#)
5. [ringing in ears](#)
6. [infection](#)
7. [nystagmus](#)
8. [migraine headaches](#)

Symptoms

1. [dizziness](#)
2. [headache](#)
3. [inflammation](#)
4. [nausea](#)
5. [fatigue](#)
6. [ear pain](#)
7. [neck pain](#)
8. [back pain](#)

Drugs

1. [meclizine](#)
2. [prochlorperazine](#)
3. [amoxicillin](#)
4. [aspirin](#)
5. [dimenhydrinate](#)
6. [prednisone](#)
7. [sertraline](#)
8. [ciprofloxacin](#)



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